

**PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

Please cancel all claims on file and substitute claim 31 for examination and allowance.

Claims 1-30 (Cancelled)

31. (New) In a communication system, a method comprising:

determining traffic to pilot channel power ratio of a traffic channel for communication between a mobile station and a base station in said communication system, wherein said traffic to pilot channel power ratio is determined based on communications of said traffic channel;

determining duty cycle of data frame transmissions of a dedicated control channel associated with said traffic channel, wherein said dedicated control channel is for maintaining communications of said traffic channel, wherein said duty cycle of data frame transmissions is based on the possible number of frame transmissions over a period of time;

adjusting said traffic to pilot channel power ratio based on said determined duty cycle;

communicating said traffic channel in accordance with said determined traffic to pilot channel power ratio, and said dedicated control channel in accordance with said adjusted traffic to pilot channel power ratio.